

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method for allowing a client application (16) to establish, in a client network (10), a first connection having a first security level, directly with a first port (1) of a server application (17) hosted in a server machine (13) linked to a server network (11), in order to send messages (30) addressed to the server machine (13), said messages (30) passing from the client network (10) to the server network (11) through a network layer (CR) of a gateway machine (9), ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ comprising:

[[-]] creating a second port (3) in the gateway machine (9);

[[-]] ordering the network layer (CR) of the gateway machine (9) to reroute to the second port (3) of the gateway machine any message sent to the first port (1) of the server application, addressed to the server machine (13);

[[-]] listening to the second port (3) of the gateway machine to detect a request to establish said first connection with the first port of the server application and;

[[-]] generating, in the gateway machine (9), a thread for establishing said first connection when a request to establish said first connection is detected in the second port (3) of the gateway machine.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7, further comprising:

[[-]]defining a third port (2) of the server application (17) for receiving at least one of the messages (30) with a second security level; and whereas said thread comprises;

[[-]]establishing said first connection in a first phase with a first security level in a first interface associated with the second port (3) and with said request;

[[-]]establishing in a second phase a second connection with a second level of security in a second interface to the third port (2) in the server machine (13);

[[-]]writing with the second security level in the second interface any message read in the first interface with the first security level in a third phase, and;

[[-]]writing with the first security level in the first interface any message read in the second interface with the second security level in a fourth phase.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that it~~ comprises further comprising:

[[-]]ordering the network layer (CR) of the gateway machine (9) to delete any message sent to the third port (2).

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the steps of creating and ordering are executed automatically by a first process of the gateway machine (9) and in that said first process generates a second process that executes the third and the fourth step.

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the steps of creating and ordering are executed automatically by a first process of

the gateway machine ~~(9)~~ and in that said first process generates a second process that executes the third and the fourth step.

12. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 10, further comprising automatically executing the steps of creating, rerouting and deleting by a first process of the gateway machine ~~(9)~~ and generating by said first process a second process that executes the steps of listening and generating a thread.

13. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 11, further comprising automatically executing the steps of creating, rerouting and deleting by a first process of the gateway machine ~~(9)~~ and generating by said first process a second process that executes the steps of listening and generating a thread.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for allowing a client application ~~(16)~~ to establish in a client network ~~(10)~~ a first connection having a first security level, directly with a first port ~~(1)~~ of a server application ~~(17)~~ hosted in a server machine ~~(13)~~ linked to a server network ~~(11)~~, in order to send messages ~~(30)~~ addressed to the server machine ~~(13)~~, said messages ~~(30)~~ passing from the client network ~~(10)~~ to the server network ~~(11)~~ through a network layer (CR) of a gateway machine ~~(9)~~, characterized in that it consists of activating, in the gateway machine, a secure application proxy that reroutes the messages from the first connection, in a way that is transparent for the client application, in order to establish a second connection having a second security level with the server application, said second connection being unknown to said client application.